NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS & NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT COVERING NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM (NSP 1) AWARD FROM MINNESOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds (RROF)

The City of Saint Paul, 1400 City Hall Annex, 25 West 4th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102 gives notice that it will submit a request for release of grant funds and an environmental certification pertaining thereto to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) 15 days following this publication. The request and certification relate to the following program.

Project Title: Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP 1)

Location: Zip Codes of greatest need 55103, 55104, 55106, 55107, 55130,

55117 and 55119 (portions located within St. Paul City limits)

Purpose of Program: to acquire and treat vacant/foreclosed homes, residential

properties, abandoned homes and blighted structures as defined under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act 2008 and as

Amended.

Estimated Funding: \$6,349,780.00

Funding Source: Neighborhood Stabilization Funds (federal)

The project(s) described above will be undertaken with funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that were awarded through Minnesota Housing Financing Agency (MHFA).

The City of Saint Paul is certifying to MHFA and HUD that the City of Saint Paul and Christopher Coleman in his capacity as Mayor consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon MHFA's and HUD's approval, the City of Saint Paul may use the funds, and MHFA and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other related laws and authorities. MHFA and HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases:

- a) The certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer of applicant approved by HUD; or
- b) The environmental review records for the project(s) indicate an omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project(s) in the environmental review process.

c) Other specific grounds in HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58.75.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD at 920 South Second Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55402, Minnesota Housing Financing Agency, 400 Sibley Street, Suite 300, St. Paul, MN. No objection received 15 or more days after receipt from the City for approval of the RROF will be considered by HUD.

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

The City of Saint Paul also gives notice that it has been determined that the release of funds for the above project(s) meet the criteria of 24 CFR 58.35(a)(4) and will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly, the above named City of Saint Paul has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 USC 4321).

An Environmental Review Record respecting the project(s) has been made by the City of Saint Paul which documents the environmental review of the project(s) and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file in the Department of Planning and Economic Development, 1100 City Hall Annex, 25 West Fourth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102 and is available for public examination and copying, upon request during the weekday hours of 8 AM to 4 PM by contacting either Sheri Pemberton-Hoiby at 651-266-6615 or Penny Simison at 651-266-6554. This document has also been posted on the City's website at www.stpaul.gov/nsp under NSP I - Tier I Environmental Reviews (Mn.Housing).

No further environmental review of such project(s) is proposed to be conducted except for site specific reviews or compliance measures needed regarding housing quality standards, historic properties, flood plain management or wetlands protection prior to the release of Federal funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City. Such written comments should be received at the address listed above on or before fifteen (15) days following the date of this notice. All comments received will be considered and the City will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the project(s) prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Christopher Coleman Mayor June 18, 2009